

Message Text

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51

ACTION ARA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 PM-03 INR-05 ARAE-00 PRS-01 IGA-01

NSC-05 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 L-01 SP-02 /039 W

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P 301924Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8453

INFO USCINCSO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEGUCIGALPA 4661

LIMDIS

STATE PASS AID/PHA/FDRC

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: HO, SWEL

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR HELICOPTERS

REF: TEGUCIGALPA 4634

1. PRESS CAMPAIGN FOR RETURN OF THE HELICOPTERS CONTINUES TO MOUNT IN INTENSITY WITH SOME ARTICLES BOOSTING TOTAL OF THOSE ALLEGEDLY IN IMMINENT DANGER OF PERISHING FOR LACK OF RELIEF SUPPLIES TO 31,000. COL. ANDINO OF COPEN INDICATED AS SOURCE. HE ALSO REPORTEDLY CLAIMED THAT WEATHER HAS PREVENTED DISTRIBUTION OF SUPPLIES TO THESE PEOPLE FOR TEN DAYS. HE REITERATED PAST CALLS FOR HELICOPTER ASSISTANCE, CLAIMING EFFORTS TO DISTRIBUTE SUPPLIES TO SOME AREAS BY FOOT INVOLVE TREKS OF "HUNDREDS OF KILOMETERS" AND ARE PHYSICALLY IMPRACTICABLE. "WE CAN DO NO MORE"... "OUR HANDS ARE TIRED", HE IS QUOTED AS STATING. SAME ARTICLES QUOTE COPEN PRESIDENT COL. HERNANDEZ AS CONFIRMING THAT TALKS ARE UNDERWAY WITH AMBASSADOR SANCHEZ FOR THE RETURN OF THE HELICOPTERS.

2. PRESS ALSO REPORTS THAT OAS REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ DE AGUERO HAS MADE "PATHETIC CALL" BY RADIO AND TV TO
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GOVERNMENTS OF LATIN AMERICA AND THAT IN ABSENCE OF

RESPONSE, IT IS FEARED DEATH TOLL FROM HURRICANE WILL
"TRIPLE".

3. EMBASSY EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS REMAINS AS STATED
REFTEL.

4. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE BEING ADVISED PROMPTLY WHAT
POSITION OAS INTENDS TO TAKE WITH RESPECT TO FINANCING
RENEWED HELICOPTER SUPPORT. EMBASSY ALSO NEEDS EARLY
REPLY TO ITS REQUEST TO BE INFORMED OF PRECISE INSTRUCTIONS
GIVEN OAS REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ IN FIELD OF DISASTER
RELIEF (TEGUCIGALPA 4623).
SANCHEZ

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, SUPPLIES, ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, HELICOPTERS, NATURAL DISASTERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Authority: boyleja
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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